

THE PULSE

of The New York Hospital Employees

VOLUME 2

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NUMBER 1

WRITE IT — DON'T SAY IT

If it be within the latitude of *The Pulse* to offer a small suggestion for the better operation of the hospital for the New Year, let it admonish "Write It — Don't Say It." Many a spoken word is forgotten often faster than it is uttered.

We have witnessed several misunderstandings, not too harmful, yet cause for friction, which never would have arisen had the written record of the case been intact. It takes a few seconds more at the time which might well save an hour six months later.

Questions of policy, changes of standards and adjustments of prevailing inconsistencies can all stand the "written" treatment. Nothing can wear a fellow down faster than the poser: "Don't you remember my telling you about that" at a time when you recall absolutely nothing about it. Whether he knew it or not, The Honorable "Al" Smith gave us something with "Let's look at the record."

RECORD ROOM TEA

The Annual Christmas Tea was held in the Record Room on Thursday afternoon, December 21st where the spirit of Christmas had changed even the austere atmosphere of filing cabinets.

Amid Christmas wreaths, holly boughs, and our shimmering tree, and with Santa Claus himself at the head of the Reception Committee, the Record Department gladly welcomed the unending stream of many old and new friends who stopped in for a friendly chat over the tea cups. According to reports from some of the hostesses in charge of the coffee urn, we must admit, that coffee had gained as great a popularity as any beverage could at a tea party!

The Record Room Staff welcomes every opportunity to become better acquainted with its co-workers in other parts of the hospital; when the magic of a word or smile can turn names into familiar faces, and change pink slips and telephone numbers into real people.

With all Good Wishes for the New Year, already begun, we hope to meet our friends throughout the year.

MAY WE PRESENT



MR. JAMES F. BEST

It is the distinct pleasure of the editor of *The Pulse* to present to you with this issue, a fact or two concerning his boss, Mr. Jimmy Best, the Purchasing Agent of The New York Hospital. There are a number of The Buyer's extra-curricular accomplishments which we will not go into at this time; private conferences can be arranged; call 323 or 7155.

A native of Somerville, Mass., Mr. Best passed a romping boyhood between there and Tiverton, Rhode Island. He dismissed that part of his life rather fast to tell us that his first position of note was with the Adjutant General's Department in Washington, D. C., where, when the United States declared war, he assisted in the organization of the commissioned personnel of the Regular and National Armies; this experience lead him to be Army Field Clerk at Hoboken for embarkation detail; then came the appointment as Chief Clerk at Camp Mills, Long Island, with responsibility for an 800,000 card mailing list (you might know he would have a force of one hundred and fifty, mostly women).

Thereafter for a period of five years Mr.

Best was office and service manager for Shaw-Walker in New York City. His hospital days began in 1926 with Presbyterian Hospital where he was successively Stock Record Clerk, Store-Keeper and Purchasing Agent. In the latter capacity he came to The New York Hospital in 1934.

When you see Jim forging down the hallway with that determined half-scamper—half-gallop gait of his, it's in the pursuit of line of duty to "earn the dough" for his sizeable family over in Teaneck, New Jersey. To him belongs the unique distinction of being the father of two sets of twins (a boy and a girl in each set) born a year apart to the very day, one set on March 11th, 1921 and the other on March 11th, 1922. Cruel was the fate which upset this combination with the death of the daughter of the younger set a year ago last summer. Two more children complete the roster which forces papa to "bring home the bacon."

And now for the edification of those steeped in the belief that all purchasing agents are either demons or grafters, let it be written by one who is in a position to know, that Jim Best has long had the reputation among the trade and his employees of being a good bargainer and a square shooter. To a job which calls for the acquisition of over thirty thousand different items he brings an often excitable, but irrepressible determination. "After fifteen years in the business I guess I know some of the answers!" Believe it or not; he does.

MERCI BEAUCOUP

The editors of *The Pulse* wish to thank those who spoke so kindly of their Christmas Issue. No little credit for its front page appeal belongs to Mr. Jack London, who worked out the detail of that page. Thanks are also in order for Bob Murphey who diligently applies himself to the arduous task of producing *Picture Pulse*.

As time goes on, we shall strive to make this paper more interesting and far reaching in its scope. May the New Year bring your contribution and criticism.

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WHISPERING HOPE

As we stood among friends at the turn of a New Year and amid the din of horns and bells launched the last year of the fourth decade of the twentieth century with a goblet of champagne, a sudden pause made us wonder a bit, why all this?

Perhaps "Faith springs eternal;" or perhaps in our revelry we hoped to submerge "The aches and pains the flesh is heir to." Ours is the whispering hope that for many there may have been cognizance of the stark reality of the unfortunate trends of mankind about us.

We look not for a despairing hope; but for one that is vital and earnest, intent upon guiding us to a fuller and richer life and understanding between us all. For us thousands need not die, millions need not starve. To capable men and women 1940 offers a stronger challenge, than has been a New Year's demand for many a year, to produce a true civilization.

THE KICKER

I hate to be a kicker, I always long for peace,
But the wheel that does the squeaking is the one that gets the grease.
It's nice to be a peaceful soul, and not too hard to please,
But the dog that's always scratching is the one that has the fleas.
The art of soft soap spreading is a thing that palls and stales,
But the guy that wields the hammer is the guy that drives the nails.
Let us not put any notions that are harmful in your head,
But the baby that keeps yelling is the baby that gets fed.

If you can laugh at yourself, there's hope.

EVOLUTION OF THE DOUGHNUT

Probably few persons who enjoy the American doughnut know that the hole in the pastry was originated in New England by a boy who later became a well-known sea captain, Hanson Gregory.

It was in 1847, as a lad, that Hanson watched his mother frying doughnuts and he noticed that the center of the little round cakes always seemed soggy or doughy. Suddenly he had an idea: If the center were eliminated, the cake might be more appetizing and lighter.

Like a good pioneer, his mother experimented; and the result was so satisfactory that she never went back to the former way. Her method was copied, and soon spread like wildfire over the entire country.

— *Christian Science Monitor*

KAREKIN CHILJIAN — DECORATOR

The model of St. Patrick's Cathedral, a picture of which appeared in the December 1939 *Picture Pulse*, was made by Mr. Karekin Chiljian an employee of our Housekeeping Department since August 1932. He worked on this model during his spare time for a period of six months. He claims that he could have produced the same result in one week of full time work. We question the accomplishment of so much refinement of detail in such a short period.

Mr. Chiljian, an able linguist, is the chap who usually designs the set-up of the Christmas decorations in our Main Lobby. This year an injured finger prevented him from taking an active part.

This is the second consecutive year that Mr. Chiljian has made a model and given it to Miss Hardenburg. We are told that many people called to inspect the Cathedral and that their comment was universal in its acclaim for its attractiveness and completeness.

NUTRITION'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Holiday festivities were well started by the annual Nutrition party held in the College Dining Room on December fourteenth.

The ever suave master of ceremonies, Edgar Meyer of Nutrition Stories, kept the program stepping. Outstanding features were a tap routine, "Bowery Liz," by Betty Brosch of M3 pantry and Elmer "Zilch" Thomas of the Fourteenth Floor, followed by a well executed acrobatic dance by Betty; Joe Stankovich of the East Dining Room rolled them in the aisles with his humorous solo: "Beer Barrel Polka." Those of us who remember when Christmas Carols were sung with solemnity could forgive a faint

suggestion of swing to the "Adeste Fideles."

The program was organized by Conrad Holling of the Garden Dining Room under the supervision of the program chairman, Helen Corbitt and chairman of activities, Mildred Davidson.

Following the drawing of prizes and distribution of gifts by Santa Claus and his helpers, refreshments were served. A healthy jam session brought a close to what has been conceded the most successful Christmas party in many a year.

HOSPITAL ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES

The increasing popularity of the Athletic Activities, held each Friday evening at the Julia Richmond High School, is evident as new members are accepted at each meeting. The enrollment has now reached one hundred and ninety three.

Varied entertainment permits a person to participate in his chosen sport. At the present time basket-ball claims many followers. On December 8th eight teams met to determine their relative strength.

The Messengers led by Jerry Bergen and Ray Moody toppled the hard fighting representatives of the Main Kitchen by a score of 32 to 22. George Vishner and Al Masters were outstanding for the Kitchen.

The Laundry was forced to overcome an early lead to nose out the East Dining Room team by a close score of 16 to 10. Walter Stedronsky and Gus Melish displayed sparkling ball handling ability. Joe Roman played creditably for the losers.

The General Stores lost to the Nurses Residence 12 to 18. Vito Migliore led the attack for the losers while Johnny Cronin played stellar ball for the Residence.

Danny Hayes and Harry Wernshofen were high scorers for the Elevator Operators as they defeated the Orderlies to the tune of 19 to 12. Freddie McMan and Gerald Duffy made some difficult shots for the losers.

At the conclusion of activity on the basket ball court, many complete the evening by joining the merry party at the swimming pool. Fancy diving may be witnessed here in almost all degrees of perfection.

In addition to basketball and swimming facilities, hand-ball and ping pong courts are available. Tournaments in these two sports can be arranged. Why not avail yourself of this opportunity for recreation during the winter months? Let's show our enthusiasm by signing up for these tournaments in order that the Athletic Association may become still more successful toward attaining a permanent position in the activities of the Hospital employees.

PICTURE PULSE



RECIPIENTS OF CONSIDERABLE
APPLAUSE AT THE NUTRITION
PARTY



-SANTA-
CHARLIE WENDEL
CAUGHT MAKING
HIS APPROACH



A COMELY REPRESENTATION
FROM CENTRAL LABORATORIES



Be careful doc' I'm ticklish

504942

A MENU SPEAKS

Room No. 1306 2

Name _____

THE NEW YORK HOSPITAL

DINNER MENU

*Discharged from Hospital
your food has been excellent*
Fresh Fruit Cup

Beef and Barley Soup Clam Bouillon
Whole Wheat Wafers

I commend Dietitian, Cooks, Waitress, all.

Roasted Rib of Beef, au Jus
Spaghetti with Chicken Livers and Julienne Ham
Scrambled Eggs, Melba

*May your duties and problems be
appreciated by those who are sick.*

Baked Mashed Potato Baked Idaho Potato
Diced New Beets Puree of Beets

Broccoli, Polonaise

*May the Management realize how well
you do your job.*

Shredded Cabbage and Pineapple Salad -
Sour Cream Dressing

*May your good cheer and dignity as well as
your cooking continue to be a big factor in
restoring health to the sick.*

Hard Roll Melba Toast
White Bread Whole Wheat Bread

Butter

*And when you drop off to sleep at night
may there be a sense of peace because you have
a part*

Peppermint Stick Ice Cream with Chocolate Petit Fours
Bread and Butter Pudding Individual Peach Pie

Fresh Applesauce

*in making mankind conscious that neighborly
feelings*

Buttermilk Milk Hot Chocolate
Coffee Tea Sanka
Cream Lemon

THURSDAY, October 5, 1939.

*continue because you express in superior
service your regard for those lives you
happen to touch.*

J. J. Richards

ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT PARTY

The long-awaited annual Christmas Party of the Accounting and Purchasing Departments was held Thursday, December 21, 1939, at the Gloria Palast, 210 E. 86th Street, New York City.

Dinner was delayed some half-hour while our chairman, Cy Johnson, paced the floor in great anxiety as to the whereabouts of several of our fairest young ladies who were last seen headed in the direction of Margaret Adams' apartment for cocktails. Following the eventual arrival of the missing guests (who, it seems, were having too good a time to pull themselves away) a delicious chicken dinner was served.

The sounds of the orchestra tuning up in preparation for the evening's festivities forced the reversal of the usual order of events and the "after dinner" speakers were heard between courses. Although claiming that this change of procedure had taken him unawares, Mr. Sargent nevertheless delivered a humorous and pertinent address. Dr. Wheeler followed with a brief reminiscence of his early experience in a bank which was, as he put it, "really more out of than in the bank" — to wit — messenger before the days of the clearing house. Mr. Keig and Mr. Wells also gave brief addresses and extended the greetings of the season officially.

The gaiety of the evening was marred only by the fact that "Pat" Dillard could not be present, having been admitted to H-2 the week before with an attack of pleurisy. Everyone owes her a debt for her work on the committee and wishes her a speedy recovery.

The varied syncopations of not one, but two orchestras now turned our thoughts to dancing. Particularly noted was the exhibition of his original specialty, "The Conga," by Jim Barritt and Gertrude Jannette, a newcomer to our force. This Terpsichorean triumph cannot be described. It cannot be appreciated unless seen.

Since even the best of parties must end sometime, all too soon the exodus began and shortly after 1 A.M. even the "die-hards" had left on their merry way for home. So ended what has been unanimously acclaimed as the best party we ever had.

P.S. I have but one regret — that Jim Best's hilarious monologue which went on the best part of the evening and touched on the strangest variety of subjects ever heard, was not recorded for posterity.

Miss Beatrice Fitch of Psychiatry received severe burns on Christmas night from a fire in her apartment. She is able to be out again, but with her right arm still in bandages.

HEALTH LECTURES FOR COMMUNITY

A study of the most effective means of providing the public with information and education about health is in progress at the Kips Bay-Yorkville Health and Teaching Center, 411 East 69th Street, operated in conjunction with the Cornell University Medical College. The territory served by this health center has a population of about 200,000 people and extends from Fifth Avenue to the East River from 34th to 91st Streets.

The Department of Health continuously stresses the need for public education as the means by which intelligent and efficient utilization of present day health facilities may be achieved.

With the development of control measures for certain communicable diseases in the last fifty years, it has become an increasingly important phase of public health work to secure public understanding of how certain diseases can be prevented and treated.

In order to bring many public health facilities nearer to the seven and a half million people of the City, thirty health districts have been mapped out. The health problems of the various districts, therefore, can be studied more carefully and the educational work especially adapted to local needs. The Health Department looks forward to the time when district health centers will be the focal point for extensive local health education activities. With this objective in mind a demonstration district health education service has been established at the Kips Bay-Yorkville Health Center, through substantial voluntary grants from the New York and Nathan Hofheimer Foundations. This study is closely identified with the work of the Department's Bureaus of Public Health Education and District Health Administration and the Committee on Neighborhood Health, and is guided by an Advisory Committee of outstanding leaders in the public health field with Commissioner Rice as chairman.

At present, the health education demonstration is concentrating on securing the cooperation of adult groups in this district for the development of health education lecture programs. Staff members are working with leaders of various adult groups such as parents' associations, clubs, churches, settlement houses, unions, and industrial concerns. In so doing, they are securing information about matters of health in which the community is interested. After all the necessary information about the people served by these organizations has been secured and studied, educational programs are arranged. A carefully selected lecturer is sent to discuss the specific health problems.

The latest approved health motion pictures are used to supplement such discussions, all equipment being furnished by the demonstration. Any organization may arrange a complete series of such programs. A timely new program is produced each month by the demonstration to meet the demands of groups desiring an occasional lecture. Announcements of these programs are mailed each month to organizations in the district.

During a recent month, such programs were provided for over two thousand persons in the district. Among the subjects covered, were nutrition for children, low-cost diets, the common cold, child health, heart disease, cancer, child development, tuberculosis, venereal diseases, pneumonia, health facilities in New York, and safety in the home.

Any group holding meetings in this district, and desiring to have such programs, needs only to call the Health Education Service at the Kips Bay-Yorkville Health Center. (REgent 7-2288).

PAUL D. GUERNSEY, *Supervisor*

District Health Education Demonstration

HOSPITALES

Miss Burke of Administration, not long ago was glowing over her cash winnings for extolling the merits of a beer container: now she's "downing a quart a day" — but don't get her wrong — it's a "milk" award for her recent successful rhyming. It would seem she's one with a "thirst for contests."

These "Pulseditors" get around: Miss Atkinson is one of the main springs of the New York Dietetic Association; Miss Banfield, completing another year at the helm of the O.P.D. Nursing Service, returned to Minnesota for the holiday week; Miss McDermott, a most gracious hostess for those innumerable Christmas teas at the Nurses Residence hied herself off to Massachusetts for a New Year vacation; Mr. Meyer temporarily left his post in the nutrition store-room for a brief tune-up via hospitalization; and now we have "old man" Childs with the arrival of a baby daughter, Barbara Jean, two days before Christmas.

A tea was held on Dec. 22 in the eighth floor lounge rooms of Payne Whitney for members of the medical, nursing, and clerical staff. The rooms were gay with Christmas decorations, the tables charming, with Mrs. Diethelm, Mrs. Jameison, Mrs. Simon, and Miss Gunderson pouring.

Mrs. Alma Rose gave the annual Christmas party for the members of the Payne Whitney Housekeeping Department on Dec. 19. A large Christmas tree decorated the lounge, and dancing, games and refreshments made the evening a festive one.

Miss Myrtle Guy of Psychiatry was in Washington, D.C., for Christmas.

NO SKATING THIS YEAR

The tennis courts, which so many of us enjoyed last season will not be flooded for skating this winter. Facilities for proper flooding and drainage are not available.

You may rest assured that the Administration has given this proposition much thought. The possibility of a skating rink in the future will have careful consideration.

We know this announcement will be a disappointment for many people. You must remember that all good things come slowly. We feel sure that the Administration was most satisfied with the reception of the tennis courts. To them, for you, *The Pulse* voices appreciation.

PICTURE PULSE'S VILLAGE

The miniature village depicted in this issue's *Picture Pulse* was set beneath the Christmas tree in the Private Dining Room on the Fourteenth Floor. Refreshing in its portrayal of rural life, the village was built and exhibited by William Price, orderly and swimming instructor of the Hospital's Athletic Association. This creation from old cheese boxes, a bit of wire and paint brought considerable comment and attracted many visitors to the Fourteenth Floor.

JOHN CROWLEY — CRAFTSMAN

At the Nurses Residence during the Christmas week, there was in evidence a replica of our seal carved in wood. We are told that it is the work of Mr. John Crowley, a Nurses Residence porter. This piece of handiwork is well worth your inspection.

Mr. Crowley's daughters, Ann and Helen, both of whom are attendants at the Hospital, vouch for the fact that their home is full of neat and intricate pieces of woodcraft. We are prompted to consider the promotion of a Hobby Show at the Hospital.

VARSITY BASKETBALL

The New York Hospital Basketball team played its first game on Tuesday, December 26th. It was a close game with St. John's Hospital. The score at the end of the regular time was tied at 24 all. In the five minute over-time period the Hospital team caged three fast baskets to win by a score of 30 to 26.

The line-up of our team was as follows: forwards, Danny Hayes of the Elevator Operators and Joe Coyle of the Messengers; center, Jerry Bergen of the Messengers; guards, Harry Wernshofen of the Elevator Operators and Jerry Bristo of Nutrition; substitutes, Don Rith of the Pharmacy and Jerry Muller of the Elevator Operators.

Joe Coyle and Jerry Bergen lead the boys to victory behind the able assistance of the other members of the team.

CHRISTMAS AT THE RESIDENCE

Christmas festivities began so early that they took us unaware. The residence seemed suddenly to overflow with an air of Yuletide gladness impregnated by the profuse festoons of ground pine, blue lights in the hallways, a gay Christmas tree on the front lawn and candlelight.

The first main event in the full program sponsored by the House Committee was the Employee's Party on Tuesday, December 19th. There was carol singing, tasty eats, a tree and Santa for the wide-eyed kiddies to digest along with their ice cream and cookies. Finally there was dancing in the auditorium with the discovery of hitherto unrecognized "home" talent.

Friday, December 22nd, brought one of the loveliest of all the Christmas happenings, the Student Christmas Dinner and Candle Light Service. Lead by gaily bedecked minstrels, the honored guests and their friends, the host and hostess, the Lord and Lady of Medieval times, were escorted to the banquet hall by the student body. Each student carried a tiny taper and raised her voice with the others to sing of Christmas joy and cheer.

As dinner progressed there was a dramatic announcement by the steward. And lo! the boar's head was borne in to bring the season's greetings of good will and hope for happiness and success to the entire company. Dinner over, all adjourned to the lounge to hear a Christmas tale beautifully read, to witness the Yule log heaved to and thrown on the blazing fire, and finally to enjoy Santa and the exchange of gifts.

Saturday, December 23rd, found a small group augmented by some of the doctors and internes singing carols to patients in several pavilions. What a thoughtful way to bring to those not able to be up and about the spirit and feeling of Christmas!

On Sunday, December 24th, came the buffet supper with its highlight of oysters on the half shell which were attractively poised on a glowing cake of red ice until whisked onto a plate. We were delighted to find a well-known lady of stage and screen, Miss Alison Skipworth, in our midst as a guest of one of our residents. Miss Skipworth in her inimitably gay and humorous manner entertained the entire group with witty stories for nearly half an hour. Christmas dinner on Monday, with its delicacies, its music and its beautiful menus will be long remembered.

Every afternoon from Tuesday through Friday saw the student lounge a beehive of activity. Each day there was a tea given in honor of two departments in the hospital. There were about two hundred attending, including many doctors and internes, whom we were especially glad to welcome since

they visit us so seldom. The teas, in order, were: Out Patient and Nutrition; Pediatrics and Obstetrics; Psychiatry and Private; Medicine and Surgery.

Apparently Saturday was a day of rest. Sunday brought another social function, a House Tea which was well attended considering the fact that many had attended those of Christmas week.

As we sat in front of the still-glowing fire, the candles burned low but flickered yet on the tea table and about the room, and as we looked back on the festivities of Christmas at the Residence of The New York Hospital, it was impossible to think of other than that it had all been delightfully lovely and gay. It gave us a feeling of homely friendliness and hospitality. Above the fireplace, over all, shone the symbol and cornerstone of service, to remind us that the One who served the most humbly and effectively bid men, not just then but for all time, "GO AND DO THOU LIKEWISE."

IN MEMORIAM

With sorrow we record the death of Mr. Thomas L. Buckingham, our night superintendent at the hospital, on Dec. 16th, 1939. Before assuming his last position, Mr. Buckingham worked for a number of years in our payroll department. We have lost a willing hand, a friendly smile and seasoned words.

TRUSTEES' MEETING

The Trustees of Cornell University will be the guests of the Board of Governors of the Society of The New York Hospital at luncheon on Saturday, January 20th. On that day there will be an all day meeting in the Board Room.

HOSPITAL TALES

Miss Lucy Coons and Miss Mary Burnett of the Payne Whitney Clinic spent the Christmas holiday in Virginia.

Miss Alice McGinley of the Psychiatric OPD spent Christmas at her home in Baltimore, and New Years in Westchester.

Miss Ethel Hammer of Payne Whitney spent the New Year's weekend with a skiing party in the Poconos.

Mrs. Dann of the Psychiatric OPD went to Connecticut for the New Year's weekend.

Mrs. Anne Hull of the Psychology Dept. in Payne Whitney, went to Manchester, Vermont for skiing over the New Year's holiday.

Dr. and Mrs. Herbert Conway are the proud parents of a baby boy born on December 21st.

Another new lad arrived on January 2nd to charm the home of Dr. and Mrs. Raymond G. Chatfield.